



YOUR ENERGY CONNECTION

NATURAL GAS... THE BETTER CHOICE

START THE NEW YEAR WITH BEAT THE PEAK

“Peak” or “Peak Demand” is the greatest amount of electricity used at one time by an electric system, normally when a large number of customers are using appliances at the same time. By controlling the electric load or ‘load management’, we can keep electric costs in control. Rocky Mount averages approximately less than 10 days per month load managing. There are several options available:

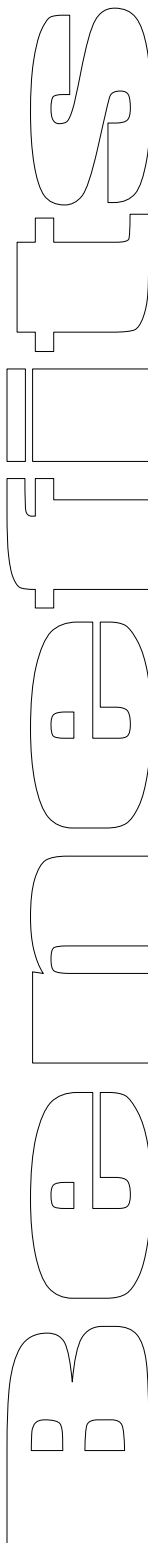
Electric Water Heater Control- Water heaters are cycled off during load management periods. Controlling water heaters will not affect the amount of hot water available. Customers receive **\$2.00** credit each month.

Electric Heat Strip Control- Heat strips are controlled during the winter load management periods, while compressors continue to provide heat. Customers receive **\$15.00** credit each month if the temperature falls to 25 degrees or below on a non-holiday weekday.

Central Air Conditioning Total Control- Customers receive **\$20.00** credit each month for July, August, and September. The compressor is turned off for the entire load management period. Fans will continue to circulate the cool air in your house, but your compressor will not generate any new cool air.

There are no installation or maintenance charges associated with this program.

**Call 972-1283 for more information .
Start your savings now!**



Constant Supply

You never need to order or store fuel in a tank. Regardless of the weather, you can depend on us to bring you America's best energy value.

Environmentally Sound

Natural gas is today's environmental energy source. It burns far cleaner than fuel oil and increased use of natural gas can help address several environmental concerns simultaneously, including smog, acid rain, and greenhouse emissions.

Clean

Natural gas minimizes your expenses for expensive annual furnace/boiler maintenance. A yearly check-up is recommended for all heating and air conditioning equipment.

Safe

Modern gas equipment is safe. Thousands of customers in the Rocky Mount and Nashville-area already use natural gas.

Monthly bill

You pay for fuel only after you use it.

Comfort

38 million American families enjoy the cozy warmth of natural gas heat. Many consumers also especially enjoy natural gas water heating because of its quick recovery. A natural gas water heater will meet all your family's needs for hot water when you need it.

If you believe you have natural gas available on your street, call 972-1250 to make application for gas services.

For other natural gas questions,
call Kim Frye at 972-1274.

WINTER WEATHER DATA

The outdoor temperature has a direct influence on the cost of heating homes. The colder it is outside, the harder heating units must work to maintain homes at a warm temperature. The main factors that contribute to utility costs are weather, thermostat control, and how well homes are insulated.

Weather statistics for Rocky Mount show December 2003, January 2004, and February 2004 were all colder than the normal temperatures for these months. December and January were on average two degrees colder than the norm. February was three degrees colder than average. With consecutive days of cold weather, heating units run continuously. The average high for December was 53 degrees. The average low was 30 degrees. The average high for January was 48 degrees, and the average low was 28 degrees. The average high for February was 51 degrees, and the average low was 31 degrees.

Controlling thermostats will help maintain heating costs. The most cost effective setting for thermostats is 68 degrees. It is more efficient to maintain a constant temperature than to constantly raise and lower your thermostat. Lowering thermostats during the day and raising it back up at night, causes the unit to work harder to reheat the living space in your home to a comfortable temperature.

Insulation is the primary cost saver in lowering utility costs. The more insulation in ceilings and walls decreases the air infiltration that allows the warm air inside your home to seep out. Physics show that warm air seeks cold air. The warm air that is cycled into homes from heating units is looking for a way out. Caulking, weatherstripping, and insulation decrease the cracks and crevices the warm air looks for to escape. Approximately 13 inches of attic insulation equates to an R-30 insulation value. This is the amount required by the building code on new home construction.

DON'T BE IN THE DARK...

The City of Rocky Mount provides an area light program that provides lighting services to your home. This can give you automatic dusk to dawn lighting every day for your safety and well being. For as little as \$14.83 which includes the light and a wooden pole you could reap the benefits of this service. An underground charge of \$4.70 may also be incurred.

For additional information, please call 972-1281.